

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LAGOS 04919 031315Z

ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PASS-00 INR-07 IO-13 MED-03  
NSAE-00 PA-02 DHA-02 SCA-01 OES-07 USIA-15 PRS-01  
CIAE-00 AID-05 FDRE-00 DODE-00 /073 W  
-----031320Z 109132 /47

R 031006Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 837

INFO AMCONSUL KADUNA

UNCLAS LAGOS 04919

DEPARTMENT PASS CDC ATLANTA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMED, SWEL, NI

SUBJECT: REPORTED OUTBREAK OF CEREBRO-SPINAL MEANINGITIS IN NORTHERN  
NIGERIA

REF: KADUNA 0454

1. RMO LAGOS ATTENDED THE NIGERIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING AT  
KADUNA APRIL 28 TO 30. WHILE THERE THE OUTBREAK OF CEREBRO-SPINAL  
MENINGITIS WAS DISCUSSED WITH SEVERAL OF THE LOCAL PHYSICIANS.

2. REPORTS OF 40 ADMISSIONS DAILY AT THE AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY  
HOSPITAL ZARIA WERE CONFIRMED BY THE LOCAL PHYSICIANS. A REQUEST  
HAD BEEN MADE TO THE NIGERIAN ARMY FOR A FIELD HOSPITAL DUE TO THE  
PRESS OF PATIENTS AND THE LACK OF SPACE AT THE ABU HOSPITAL ZARIA.

3. MORTALITY REPORTS ARE CONCEDED TO BE INACCURATE AND ONLY  
INDICATE THE IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY. THE PHYSICIANS INVOLVED BELIEVE  
THAT THERE ARE MANY DEATHS NOT REPORTED BECAUSE THEY DO NOT COME TO  
THE HOSPITAL.

4. THE ORGANISM IS MENINGOCOCCUS AND UNDOUBTEDLY DUE TO OVER  
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CROWDING AND THE HARMATTAN DUST. THE LATE RAINS THIS YEAR  
PROBABLY DO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EPIDEMIC.

5. THERE IS VERY LITTLE DANGER TO THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY KADUNA  
FROM THIS EPIDEMIC, BECAUSE IT IS ALMOST TOTALLY CONFINED TO THE  
POOR CLASS OF PEOPLE. THESE PEOPLE LIVE IN VERY CROWDED  
CONDITIONS AND HAVE PRACTICALLY NO CONTACT WITH THE AMERICAN

COMMUNITY.

EASUM

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED CDC ATLANTA.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EPIDEMICS, DEATHS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009